

**NEW HAMPSHIRE EXECUTIVE BRANCH
ETHICS COMMITTEE**

**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
ROOM 302**

**July 11, 2007
8:00 AM**

Meeting called to order by Vice Chairman Dale Kuehne.

Present: Douglas O'Brien, Deborah Schachter, Patricia Quigley and John Blair.

Absent: David Nixon, one position vacant

Also Present: New Hampshire Deputy Attorney General, Bud Fitch

- The minutes of the June 6, 2007 and June 11, 2007 meetings were reviewed and approved.
- Advisory Opinion **2007-010** was signed by all members in attendance. Once Chairman David Nixon signs it, copies will be provided to the New Hampshire Senate President, the New Hampshire House of Representatives Speaker, the Department of Administrative Services, the Secretary of State, the New Hampshire State Library, the Legislative Branch Ethics Committee and the New Hampshire Bar Association. In addition, electronic copies will be provided to the Governor's Legal Counsel, the House Legal Counsel, the Senate Legal Counsel and to Commissioners and Agency Heads. It will also be posted to the website.
- The following Draft Advisory Opinions were considered:

Advisory Opinion 2007-0XXX

Are the members of an informal task force or stakeholder advisory group whose members participate to represent and advocate for their own interests or those of their employers or organizations required to file financial disclosure statements?

Discussion was held. Bud Fitch will revise the opinion to present to the committee at the next meeting.

Draft Advisory Opinion 2007-0XXX

May a Board or Commission member receive compensation for teaching seminars that persons subject to the regulation of the Board or Commission are required to attend?

Bud Fitch will draft a revised opinion to present to the committee at the next meeting.

There was discussion on the following six advisory opinions. The committee determined that by and through discussion of the first four questions, all questions were discussed.

Advisory Opinion 2007-0XXX

Should executive branch officials directly involved in the regulation of non-profits and charities be permitted to solicit money on their behalf?

Advisory Opinion 2007-0XXX

Should executive branch officials not directly involved in the regulation of non-profits and charities be permitted to contribute and solicit money on their behalf?

Advisory Opinion 2007-0XXX

If a family member serves on the board of a non-profit or charity over which a state employee has direct regulatory control, should recusal from involvement in decision making in regard to regulatory matters relating to the non-profit or charity will be sufficient to satisfy the problem of conflict of interest?

Advisory Opinion 2007-0XXX

Should those who directly regulate charities and non-profits be permitted to make personal contributions to them?

Advisory Opinion 2007-0XXX

Should family members of state employees who are ethically prohibited from soliciting money, be able to solicit money for non-profits or from those whom the state employee is prohibited? This raises the question not only of the

rights of family members in this regard, but also precisely who is a family member?

Advisory Opinion 2007-0XXX

What should the ethical guidelines be concerning how and from whom state employees solicit funds?

- Legislative amendments to the ethics laws were discussed. HB 828 regarding state reporting requirements for gifts has been adopted by both houses but has not yet become law. SB 258 regarding reliance on ethics committee advisory opinions was discussed.
- Discussion of draft educational brochures was deferred until the next meeting.
- No new inquiries have been submitted to the committee.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 1, 2007.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Kara-Lee Bean

Kara-Lee Bean
Recording Secretary

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